

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/US2004/011702

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 F03G7/06 C23C14/20 C22F1/00 F16K31/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 F03G C23C C22F F16K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 061 914 A (BUSCH JOHN D ET AL) 29 October 1991 (1991-10-29)	29
Y	column 1, line 53 - column 2, line 37 column 3, line 18 - column 7, line 37 abstract; figures 1-3	1-24, 30-33
Y	US 5 825 275 A (SU QUANMIN ET AL) 20 October 1998 (1998-10-20)	1-24, 30-33
A	column 1, line 45 - column 3, line 24 abstract; figures 1,2	29
X	US 4 864 824 A (GABRIEL KAIGHAM J ET AL) 12 September 1989 (1989-09-12)	34
Y	column 1, line 13 - column 1, line 28 column 2, line 5 - column 4, line 47 abstract; figures	1-24, 30-33
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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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- * & * document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

13 September 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

22/09/2004

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	<p>WO 96/39547 A (UNIV CALIFORNIA) 12 December 1996 (1996-12-12) page 5, line 1 - page 9, line 33 abstract; figures 1-3</p> <p>-----</p>	<p>1-24, 30-33</p>
Y	<p>EP 0 161 952 A (SOURIAU & CIE) 21 November 1985 (1985-11-21) page 5, line 1 - page 9, line 24 page 12, line 20 - line 29 page 15, line 7 - page 16, line 7 abstract; claims 1-3; figures</p> <p>-----</p>	<p>1-24, 30-33</p>
A	<p>US 6 236 300 B1 (MINNERS R SJHON) 22 May 2001 (2001-05-22) column 3, line 14 - column 6, line 60 abstract; figures</p> <p>-----</p>	<p>1-37</p>
A	<p>US 5 325 880 A (JOHNSON A DAVID ET AL) 5 July 1994 (1994-07-05) column 4, line 7 - column 5, line 41 abstract; figures</p> <p>-----</p>	<p>35,36</p>
A	<p>US 4 538 642 A (SCHUTTEN HERMAN P ET AL) 3 September 1985 (1985-09-03) column 1, line 39 - column 2, line 35 abstract; figures</p> <p>-----</p>	<p>35,36</p>

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